

Our Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

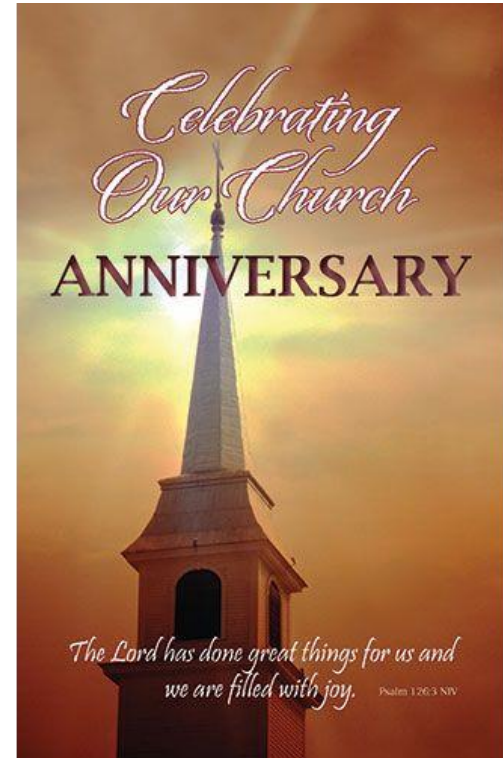
25 West Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403
717/843-8155 – st.paulsyork@comcast.net
www.stpaulsyork.org

February 2018

Sunday Holy Eucharist 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

182nd Anniversary Service February 18, 9:15 a.m.

On the First Sunday in Lent we mark the anniversary of our 182 years of Gospel Ministry in York. In those early days we were a newly forming faith community alive with a mission. The mission then was to welcome the local community to a traditional Lutheran service. The unique feature in 1836 was that the liturgy would be in English rather than German. Guests could fully participate without having the barrier of language to hold them back. This year we find ourselves in a similar situation, alive with a mission to teach the world that God is love. And while we don't have beautifully finished spaces in which to gather, we have been removing barriers making it possible and easier for guests and members to fully participate in all aspects of our ministry. On this anniversary our future is bright and hopeful. On February 18th please invite friends, neighbors, and former members to join with us in worship.



Ash Wednesday February 14

Every year we begin our Lenten journey with an Ash Wednesday observance. It is hard to imagine that in the early days of Christendom this season once emphasized the joy and triumph of Easter. Over many years it switched its tone from joy to the more somber contemplation of Christ's sufferings and death and our personal penitence. Lutheran's have tried in our observance to allow the season to rightly commemorate those events in the life of Christ that will be highlighted during Holy Week, and the need for our personal self-examination, repentance and growth in faith and grace. During these 40 days of Lent (remember that Sundays were never fast days, being in Lent but not of Lent) opportunities for personal growth in faith and grace abound: Sunday worship, adult Sunday education with Pastor Snyder, New Member's Class with Pastor Reep, Daily devotional books, Lutheran Tutoring program, Tuesday Food Pantry Volunteer, Wednesday Bible study, Handbell and Chancel Choir, increased financial giving through stewardship awareness. These are beginning places. Committed engagement with one or more of them during this Lenten season will indeed draw you closer to God and closer to members of our faith community. With the ever changing schedule of work associated with construction we will have one Ash Wednesday liturgy at 7:00 p.m. February 14 in the church nave.



A Word about Our Renovation

Invisible Progress

In the journey to renewal there are often times you feel bogged down, like you aren't making progress. This is true with renewal of diet, trying to eat healthier; true with exercise, trying to be more active and fit; true with education, as you work toward completion of a class; true with playing an instrument, as you practice; true with prayer, as you seek to be more devout. These I have experienced. You may say that they have prepared me for the renewal of our church building. Somedays it seems like we are at a standstill. However, day after day the workers continue installing duct work, running wiring, framing walls, roughing in plumbing, and laying sub-flooring. There has been a bit of fresh paint and a new floor added to what was the former scout room. The church nave is having the heating system installed; the glaziers have measured for the glass narthex wall, the emergency lighting and fire alarm system is being strategically installed, asbestos continues to be removed, and those of us who work in the building continue our jobs figuring out how to maneuver around the next obstacle. I have physically held one of the new light fixtures for the nave. It is compact; an LED unit that we are informed will reduce consumption and provide better illumination. It will alleviate the need to lower fixtures or reach them by lift. No longer will the glass globes need to be washed, dried, and repositioned, nor will people be able to point out which light bulbs in the chandelier have burned out and the cumulative total needing to be replaced. The six inch gas line that once fueled the old furnace has been removed and replaced with a smaller line about the diameter of my thumb. The new heating and cooling system is zoned so that we have control over which rooms and spaces we heat and cool. Exterior stainless steel vents have sprung up around the brick exterior of the church. Imagine vents leading from restrooms directly out of doors! While none of this seems all that religious or even interesting, I am aware that these are the things that will greatly assist the next generation of worshipers at St. Paul's. Consumption of electricity and natural gas will be greatly reduced. This will be better for the environment and better for the annual budget. The ease and use of the building, reducing trip hazards, smoothing out floors, and creating spaces that reflect 21st century life will strengthen the ministry that is carried out from the building. While it seems that we are at a plateau, I am sure that we are heading in the right direction, progress indeed is being made, and that patience continues to be a "Fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22). Soon we will embark on our annual Lenten journey. There are many things that are beyond our control. Be faithful in worship, prayer, offerings, and acts of kindness. These four are within reach for each of us. Together we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Building in faith for future generations, let us continue to proclaim the mighty deeds of God!

In love and service to the Lord,

Pastor Reep

Lenten Breakfasts Still Scrambling!

The response to the request for cooks and helpers for the Sunday morning Lenten Breakfasts is remarkable. Thank you to everyone who willingly signed up to cook and help. Following the Monday meeting with the builder 1-22-18 it does not seem humanly possible for the Fellowship Hall to be complete. We may be able to utilize the space mid-way through Lent. Linda Hanson, Chairperson of the Fellowship Committee, will notify those who signed up when we get the go ahead from the builder. Thanks for your flexibility and patience.





Up-Coming Events at St. Paul's

Feast of the Transfiguration	9:15 a.m.	Sun. February 11
Ash Wednesday Services	7:00 p.m.	Wed. February 14
New Members Class Begins	10:30 a.m.	Sun. February 18
Preschool Open House	9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Sat. March 24
Palm/Passion Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Sun. March 25
Palm Sunday Neighborhood Procession	10:45 a.m.	Sun. March 25
Holy Week:		
Confession Service	7:00 p.m.	Wed. March 28
Maundy Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Thur. March 29
Good Friday	7:00 p.m.	Fri. March 30
Vigil of Easter	7:00 p.m.	Sat. March 31
Easter Breakfast	8:30 a.m.	Sun. April 1
The Resurrection of Our Lord	9:15 a.m.	Sun. April 1
The Second Sunday of Easter and the	9:15 a.m.	Sun. April 8

SUMMER CAMP 2018

Camp Kirchenwald and Camp Nawakwa

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”

The Lutheran Camps offer – Christian Community, Worship, Daily Prayer, Making New Friends, Seeing Old Friends, Fun Activities, Adventure and Acts of Service.

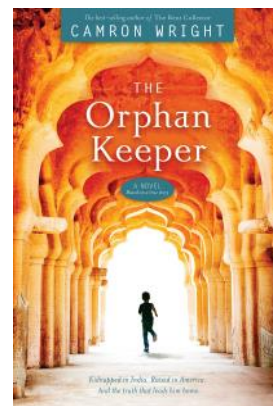
The Lutheran Camping Corporation carries out its mission as a gracious expression of God's. The heart of that mission is to: The Church, in a place and time apart... Where God's presence is experienced, Faith is renewed, Christ's love is felt, and the Church is strengthened for the service and proclamation of the Gospel! Our goal is for each child to experience the love of Christ through!

We are encouraging all of our children and youth to attend a week of church camp. Remember, camperships are available for our members! Please see Kelly Moore-Spencer for a camp brochure and more information.



The Lutheran Camping Corporation
of Central Pennsylvania

St. Paul's book club will next meet about noon Feb. 21. The book we will be discussing is *The Orphan Keeper*, by Cameron Wright. It is a novel based on a true story of a boy who was kidnapped from his home in India. It is popular, so we should reserve it soon; however, there are a dozen copies in the library system. All are welcome to bring a sandwich and join the discussion. We will be meeting in the room where the Wednesday Bible study has met earlier in the day.



Back Pack Ministry Gifts received through Lenten offering

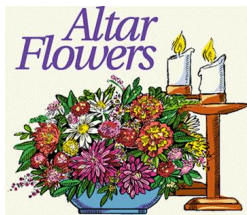


The Lenten Season Envelope dated February 18th in the 2018 envelope packets provides you with the opportunity to financially support the annual backpack ministry of the congregation. Not knowing if or where mid-week Lenten services might be held during this year of construction the Stewardship Committee opted to provide only one Lenten season envelope rather than the usual 6. (You will note that other than Ash Wednesday there are not any other mid-week envelopes.) As you approach the season of Lent, please prayerfully consider your one time Lenten offering to support this valued neighborhood ministry. If you prefer to continue to give weekly toward the backpack ministry you may do so using the “special offering” envelopes currently located on the trolley at the back of the church nave. Simply mark such gifts “backpack” so that they are properly recorded.



February 15 for March newsletter

Prayer Shawl Update – In March of 2007 the St. Paul’s prayer shawl ministry had its beginning. During the ensuing 10 years 110 shawls have been given to our members, their relatives, neighbors, and friends. If you need a prayer shawl for yourself or someone you know who would like to have one, see Kristine Gross.

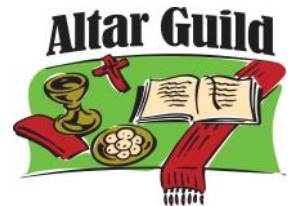


2018 Flower Chart

Reserve you date now!

The 2018 flower chart is posted on a clipboard located on the trolley at the George St. entrance. The cost of the flowers is \$30 per vase. You are welcome to sign up to provide one or both vases. After you have signed up, simply make a check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mark it altar flowers. This is a great way to honor someone, celebrate a milestone in life, or remember a loved one. The flowers may be taken home with you at the conclusion of the liturgy or you may have them given to someone who is sick, at home, or hospitalized. If you wish, you can contact the office to reserve a date, and provide us with all of the correct information for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin.

Altar Guild Request – Each Sunday the flowers that adorn the altar are given to members, family or friends who are ill, hospitalized, depressed, homebound, or in celebration of a special occasion. We use cans that are 7 inches high and 4 inches in diameter. We are always in need of these cans for this ministry. If you have some cans of the size please bring them to the sacristy.



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

Food Pantry February 2018

Items needed: Canned tuna or chicken, soup, jelly, rice, stuffing mix.

We need volunteers to sub on Tuesdays mornings. Please contact Teresa Rohrbaugh if you are able to help in this way. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.



Reorganization for Usher Teams –One Month In

In this new year anticipating finished worship space, gathering space and narthex we have reorganized Usher Teams. For many years, we operated with three teams serving for a month at a time. The Worship and Arts Committee discussed the need for a total overhaul of our current system. They are in the process of drafting a new Usher manual/handbook to help us all work together in renewed spaces. We began in January trying a 5

team system with each team taking one Sunday each month, the first week, second week, third week, and fourth week leaving the fifth Sunday of each month team to also provide ushering service on mid-week Holy Day liturgies like Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. With one combined liturgy on Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. this allows for more people to be involved while at the same time reducing the work load of serving for an entire month. We are blessed to have Ushers who also serve as Assisting Ministers, Deacons, and Communion Assistants. With this in mind the February Serving Schedule identifies 2 ushers needed for the balcony and 4 ushers needed on the main floor. On large Feast Days we may need to go back to the days of needing 8 ushers on the main floor and 2 ushers in the balcony (we can utilize members from team 5 to augment the usher corps). It was intentional that the teams comprise worshipers from both of the previous worship times and ushers have met new friends with whom they serve! Working together we are getting to know one another and strengthening the community of faith at St. Paul's Church. Thank you for your willingness to try this new approach to ushering.

TEAM 1 First Sunday	TEAM 2 Second Sunday	TEAM 3 Third Sunday	TEAM 4 Fourth Sunday	TEAM 5 Fifth Sun. & Holy Days
Dave Kopp	Joe Triggs	John Uffelman	Bob Reed	Orven Cook
Kent Matson	Larry Becker	Matthew Yinger	Alex Bastian	Becky Bingham
Marleen Matson	Kem Vaught	Ron Sturges	Josh Riese	Mike Bingham
S. Dickensheets	Cindy Vaught	Nancy Sturges	Joe Moyer	Carol Woodbury
Ron Riese	Tim Yakim	Pat Rudacille	Jeff Riese	John Monk
Jeff Owen	Melissa Yakim	Gerald Briggs Jr.	Steve Heistand	Deb Becker

*Thank
you*



The Benevolence Committee would like to thank everyone who submitted applications for 2017-2018. We are pleased to report that nine applications were approved and a total of \$30,520 has been distributed. We want to remind you that out of cycle requests are always welcomed and can be submitted anytime. Furthermore, it is not too early to start thinking about next year's submittals. Please be aware of those who are in need of God's help through us at St. Paul's.

Dear Friends of St. Paul's,
Thank you so much for all of your prayer, cards, and well wishes during my recent hospitalization and through my recovery. I also really appreciated the delivery of the altar flowers. They were beautiful! I am so glad to be home and am making progress each day. Having a strong support system has been an integral part of my recovery. Thanks for being a part of that support system. I am so blessed!
Sincerely,
Laura Livingston

Sunday School / Faith Formation / Social Ministry Projects

New Time – 10:30 a.m.

Adult opportunities for building faith will follow the 9:15 a.m. morning liturgy at 10:30 a.m. with the location to be announced. While construction continues we will find places to gather for our morning classes, discussions, and service projects.

February 4 - February 11

Sunday Morning Discussions

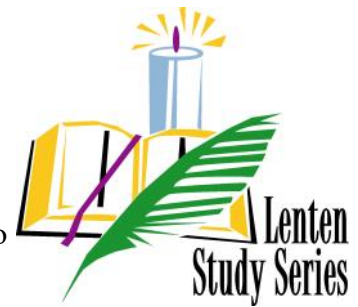
We will discuss Christian perspectives on everyday life using a video series called Nooma. Discussion topics will include: How to love those with who we disagree? Do our lives have meaning? What truly matters in life? Does God answer prayer? These sessions will be facilitated by Rhada Hartman and Patty Snyder.



February 18 - March 18

Lenten Series with Pastor Snyder

Where Does God Hide in the World, and Where Do We See and Know God? Come on board this Lenten journey as we think about our experience of God in presence and absence, in community and solitude, hidden and revealed. We will examine Scripture, what Luther and other Christian theologians and writers have to say, and think about our own experience. For those who would like to do so, you will be invited to keep a journal of reflections and add to it during the week. We will also pick a watchword for each week to round out our thinking and reflection.



February 18 – March 18

New Member's Classes with Pastor Reep

We are blessed to have so many people interested in making St. Paul's Lutheran Church their church home. During this time of construction it has been difficult to schedule classes let alone find space in which to hold them. During the Sundays of Lent we will gather following the liturgy in what had been the Chapel for a five week session. Topics will include: Lutheranism, Sacraments, Mission, Church Renovation, and Involvement. The sessions will be led by Pastor Reep. For those wishing to unite with the congregation we will receive new members on March 25, Palm Sunday.



Children's Sunday Morning Classes

February – March

The lessons for the season of Epiphany focus on the life and teachings of Jesus. The Children will be presented with stories and activities to engage them in their faith formation and learning.

Infants through grade 2 begin on the first floor for singing then proceed to their designated classes for their Bible story and games. (Parents of children younger than age 2 are asked to stay)

Grades 3-6 meet upstairs for breakfast, conversation and study with their teachers.

Grades 7-12 meet with Kelly Moore-Spencer for fellowship and learning.





Ministry for Children

Children grades 1 through 6 are invited to attend one of our programs that are designed to help them in reading the Sunday lessons so they can become young lectors on Sunday mornings. During the program they will have a lunch, learn the Bible story and do a creative activity.

Young Readers Group is for grades 1 – 2 – 3 and Adventure Time is for grades 4 – 5 – 6. Text or email Miss Kelly letting her know if your child is able to attend so she can plan for lunch and craft materials.

Young Readers, Sunday, February 11 11:30 – 12:45

Adventure Time, Sunday, February 25 11:30 – 12:45

York Conference Catechetics Program Winter/Spring Term

On Sunday February 11th at 6:00 p.m. The Winter/Spring term of our confirmation program resumes. Luther Memorial Church will continue to host this academic year. The modules that are being offered for 7th 8th and 9th grade students are Holy Communion, The Lord's Prayer, and the Apostle's Creed. An adult component is being offered too! This class will be taught by The Rev. Beth Schlegel



One year ago we were anxiously awaiting Commitment Sunday, where we received our pledges for our renewal and renovation of St. Paul's Church facilities. To date 124 pledges totaling \$846,674 have been received. Cash received toward the project as of 1/21/18 is \$ 285,890.65. If your financial situation, or personal faith commitment has changed, pledges are still being received. Information is available on the trolley cart at the George St. entrance.

2018 Always Being Made New

Always Being Made New—Local Disaster Relief

In the fifth and final year of the *ELCA Always Being Made New Campaign*, our 2018 gifts will remain at the local synod level. In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene it was determined that at the synod level we needed to have designated reserve funds to support clean up or to provide for immediate needs for our local communities and congregations. When the Always Being Made New Campaign of the ELCA was introduced one aspect of it allowed for financial support for local community need. Local Disaster Relief was selected by St. Paul's Congregation Council. Each month in the 2018 envelope packet there is an envelope clearly marked to support this ministry. Your gifts will help our local synod when the next disaster strikes the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

Other ministry St. Paul's Lutheran Church supported through the ELCA Always Being Made New Campaign:

2014 Mosquito nets for Africa	\$6,413
2015 World Hunger Appeal	\$5,012
2016 Camp Nawakwa	\$2,889
2017 Theological education	<u>\$1,948</u>
4 Year Total	\$16,262





ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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February

Church Office: 25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403
Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net **Web Page:** <http://www.stpaulsyork.org>

Stanley Reep	Pastor	Ext. 101
Kelly Moore-Spencer	Youth Director	Ext. 102
Victor Fields	Organist, Choir Director	Ext. 107
Emily Reep	Director of Children, Youth & Handbell Choirs	Ext. 107
Dale Zeiger	Bookkeeper	Ext. 105
Patee Pizzirusso	Secretary	0 or 100
Ted Weikert	Sexton	
Deborah Becker	Director of Pre-School	854-1996



Worship Schedule

Sunday Holy Eucharist 9:15, a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.